

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A filter including three or more resonators each comprising a waveguide having an electromagnetic wave propagation region surrounded by conductors,

wherein the resonators are arranged so that an electromagnetic wave enters through an input end into one of the resonators and exits through an output end from another resonator, and

the resonators are arranged so that a plurality of propagation paths of the electromagnetic wave in TE mode are formed between the input end and the output end-end, and

the resonators each have a plurality of portions, the plurality of portions each including a rectilinear side in a cross section parallel to an H-plane, the resonators are arranged so that a rectilinear side of one resonator is capable of being shared with another resonator, shared rectilinear sides form boundaries between resonators for electric and/or magnetic coupling between the resonators, and the boundaries between the resonators are in the general shape of the letter Y.

2. (Original) A filter according to claim 1, wherein the resonators are arranged in two dimensions along a plane containing the input end and the output end.

3. (Currently Amended) A filter according to claim 1 ~~including at least three resonators arranged adjacent to one another,~~

wherein a plurality~~the~~ of adjacent resonators are arranged in the general shape of the letter Y.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A filter according to claim 1, wherein each of the resonators has two conductive layers facing each other and sidewalls formed between the two conductive layers so that an~~that~~ the electromagnetic wave in TE mode propagates through a region formed by the two conductive layers and the sidewalls, and
the sidewalls of some or all of the resonators have branched structures, and a plurality of resonators are coupled at the branched parts.

6. (Original) A filter according to claim 5, wherein the sidewalls of the resonators having the branched structures have the shape of the letter Y.

7. (Original) A filter according to claim 5, wherein the sidewalls of the resonators are formed by through holes through and between the conductive layers.

8. (Original) A filter according to claim 5, wherein the sidewalls of the resonators are formed by a continuous conductive wall.

9. (Original) A filter according to claim 1, wherein the electromagnetic wave propagation region has a cavity structure.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of arranging three or more resonators each comprising a waveguide having an electromagnetic wave propagation region surrounded by conductors, including:

arranging the resonators so that an electromagnetic wave enters through an input end into one of the resonators and exits through an output end from another resonator;
and

arranging the resonators so that a plurality of propagation paths of an
electromagnetic wave in TE mode are formed between the input end and the output end-end;
forming a plurality of portions for each resonator, each of the plurality of
portions including a rectilinear side in a cross section parallel to an H-plane;

arranging the resonators adjacent one another so that the resonators share portions that include rectilinear sides; and

forming boundaries between the adjacent resonators in the general shape of the letter Y, the boundaries formed by shared rectilinear sides between the resonators for electric and/or magnetic coupling between the resonators.

11. (New) A filter according to claim 1, wherein three resonators are arranged so that any one of the three resonators is adjacent to both of the other two of the three resonators, a first resonator of the three resonators has a first rectilinear side that is fully and exclusively shared with a second resonator of the three resonators, and a second rectilinear side that is fully and exclusively shared with a third resonator of the three resonators.

12. (New) A filter according to claim 1, wherein three resonators are mutually adjacent to each other, any one of the three resonators has a first rectilinear side that is fully and exclusively shared with a first resonator of the rest two of the three resonators, and a second rectilinear side that is fully and exclusively shared with a second of the rest two of the three resonators.